

what the compromise is. For Republicans and Democrats alike, it is now on us to come up with that bipartisan solution on unemployment insurance and the other pressing issues we face as the American people.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

#### ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXII, at 11:30 a.m. tomorrow, the Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the Valderrama nomination; that if cloture is invoked on the Valderrama nomination, the postcloture time be expired and the Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination; I further ask that following the disposition of the Valderrama nomination, the Senate resume consideration of the Johnston nomination; finally, I ask that the postcloture time on the Johnston nomination expire at 1:30 p.m. tomorrow and the Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination; that if any of the nominations are confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

##### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### RUSSIA

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, earlier today, my colleagues, Senator SCHUMER and Senator WYDEN violated the Senate rules by attempting to offer a resolution disparaging oversight work being done by me and Senator JOHNSON. My colleague, Ranking Member WYDEN, said that the investigation Senator JOHNSON and I are engaged in is advancing a Russian disinformation campaign. To be clear, that investigation is focused on potential conflicts of interest and other wrongdoing regarding the time Vice President Biden was lead on the Obama administration's Ukraine policy. At that same time, his son, Hunter Biden, was on the board of a corrupt Ukrainian gas firm called Burisma. This investigation is a good-government investigation to better understand the effect these potential conflicts had on policy execution. This investigation is based on Federal Government records from the Obama adminis-

tration and records from a Democratic lobby shop, Blue Star Strategies. If those records are Russian disinformation, then that says more about the Obama administration than the purpose of this investigation.

I have also addressed the claim that this investigation is somehow connected to Andriy Derkach. I have said publicly on many occasions that I have never received information or material from him. I have never solicited information from him. The same is true for my staff. In fact, the only two times that I am aware of that my staff have come in contact with his information are, No. 1, when the Democrats introduced his records into a transcribed interview, and No. 2, when Minority Leader SCHUMER, Speaker PELOSI, Senator WARNER, and Representative SCHIFF used it in their July 13, 2020, letter.

They also attempted to link Andriy Telizhenko to Andriy Derkach, apparently to cast him as a nefarious foreign agent, but they neglected to mention his many connections to the Obama-Biden administration, including White House meetings and outings with White House staff. They also omitted his work for Blue Star Strategies, which was working on behalf of the corrupt Ukrainian firm that hired Hunter Biden while his father was the face of U.S. policy toward Ukraine. Democratic connections to Mr. Telizhenko are many and well documented. If they are so concerned that he is a conduit for disinformation, why did they work with him for so long?

Maybe the Democrats should take a pause and realize that they are the only ones pushing Russian disinformation. Let's not forget about the Steele Dossier. Thanks to now-declassified information, we know the dossier was filled with Russian disinformation. The Democrats bought-and-paid-for crown jewel ironically was an example of the very disinformation and collusion that it falsely accused the Trump campaign of. The Democrats pushed it for years. Now that it is a failed document, they have tried to run the same baseless smear tactic on this investigation. The facts simply aren't on their side. If my colleagues on the other side are as concerned about foreign disinformation as they claim to be, they would stop relying on it to falsely attack us. Let's stop playing these games and get back to business for the American people.

#### CONGRATULATING LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO ON 150 YEARS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, this year, Loyola University Chicago celebrates the 150th anniversary of its founding, which occurred on September 5, 1870. Loyola Chicago is a world-class institution with a storied history as a Roman Catholic Jesuit university, a strong track record of academic excellence, and the proud home of the Loyola Ramblers.

Loyola University Chicago was founded under the name of St. Ignatius College by Arnold Damen, S.J., to serve Chicago's Catholic immigrants. In 1909, the school was granted a new charter by the State of Illinois and renamed "Loyola University Chicago". That same year, the newly-named Loyola Chicago granted its first professional graduate degrees and organized its first football, basketball, and indoor baseball teams. Today, Loyola Chicago is the only Jesuit Catholic university in Illinois.

Throughout its history, Loyola Chicago has upheld its Jesuit values—being an institution of rigorous liberal arts education and academic excellence, while also being a place of inclusion and acceptance for marginalized communities, including immigrants. Loyola Chicago's Stritch School of Medicine led the country as the first medical school to accept DACA recipients, many of whom have committed to working in a medically-underserved community in Illinois after graduation.

In addition, under its previous president, Father Michael Garanzini, Loyola Chicago created Arrupe College. Arrupe is a 2-year degree program that brings Loyola Chicago's academic quality together with a focus on affordability and care for the whole person. Arrupe's low-cost and wrap-around services—including meals, childcare, and transportation—bring a high-quality Loyola Chicago education to low-income and students of color in the Chicagoland area who otherwise may not have a chance to succeed in college.

Loyola Chicago's focus on service is part of the fabric of the institution and its community. Loyola Chicago supports more than 300 community partner organizations in Chicago and the Chicagoland suburbs through student, staff, and faculty service and volunteer work. Loyola Chicago's impact can be found almost anywhere in the Chicagoland area.

Illinois has been served well and enriched by the many contributions of Loyola University Chicago. I look forward to the school's many contributions in the years ahead and several more successful runs at the NCAA basketball tournament being led by their team chaplain, the now world famous Jean Dolores Schmidt, known to all as simply Sister Jean.

I thank Loyola for its many contributions to our State and country. It is my distinct honor to congratulate President Jo Anne Rooney—the school's first female president—and the entire Loyola community of staff, faculty, students, and alumni on your 150th anniversary.

#### VOTE EXPLANATION

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I was unable to attend the rollcall vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Brett H. Ludwig, of Wisconsin, to be U.S. district judge for the

Eastern District of Wisconsin. Had I been able to attend, I would have voted in support of cloture.

Mr. President, I was unable to attend the rollcall vote on the motion to confirm the nomination of Brett H. Ludwig, of Wisconsin, to be U.S. district judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin. Had I been able to attend, I would have voted in support of confirmation.

Mr. President, I was unable to attend the rollcall vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Christy Criswel Wiegand, of Pennsylvania, to be U.S. district judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania. Had I been able to attend, I would have voted in support of cloture.

Mr. President, I was unable to attend the rollcall vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Hala Y. Jarbou, of Michigan, to be U.S. district judge for the Western District of Michigan. Had I been able to attend, I would have voted in support of cloture.

Mr. President, I was unable to attend the rollcall vote on the motion to confirm the nomination of Christy Criswell Wiegand, of Pennsylvania, to be U.S. district judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania. Had I been able to attend, I would have voted in support of confirmation.

Mr. President, I was unable to attend the rollcall vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Thomas T. Cullen, of Virginia, to be U.S. district judge for the Western District of Virginia. Had I been able to attend, I would have voted to oppose cloture.

Mr. President, I was unable to attend the rollcall vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Diane Gujarati, of New York, to be U.S. district judge for the Eastern District of New York. Had I been able to attend, I would have voted in support of cloture.

#### TRIBUTE TO COMMANDER EDWARD H. MURRAY

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the service of Commander Edward H. Murray of the U.S. Navy on the occasion of his retirement after 20 years of Active Duty. I would like to briefly share with my colleagues some of the highlights of his fine career.

For the past 20 years, Commander Murray excelled in leading Navy Sailors as an E-2C naval flight officer. He served sea tours with VAW-116, deploying on the USS *Constellation* and USS *Abraham Lincoln* in support of coalition forces in Iraq and operations in the Western Pacific. He also deployed to the Western Pacific with VTC-12 on-board the USS *Bonhomme Richard*, providing airspace and diplomatic coordination. Ashore, Commander Murray's assignments included a special selection as aide-de-camp to the four-star commander of the U.S. Naval Forces in Naples, Italy, during operations in

Kosovo and Libya. He also served my colleague, Senator TIM Kaine of Virginia, as a legislative fellow and then continued his service in the Navy Office of Legislative Affairs as deputy director of the Senate Liaison Office.

I have gotten to know Commander Murray over the past 2 years through his assignment to the Navy's Appropriations Matters Office. As a representative of the Chief of Naval Operations and Secretary of the Navy, he provided valuable support to Members of the Senate and House Appropriations Committees regarding the Navy's budgetary needs. His efforts to provide timely and transparent information to the committees contributed to the enactment of the Defense Appropriations Acts for fiscal years 2019 and 2020. Commander Murray also provided superior support to me and many of my colleagues as we traveled across Europe and Asia conducting oversight of critical national security assets abroad.

As Commander Murray departs the Pentagon, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate him on his retirement; to thank him, his wife Amanda, and his family for their years of service; and to wish him the very best going forward.

#### REMEMBERING FIREMAN 2ND CLASS ALBERT RENNER

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. President, today, as he is buried in the North Dakota Veterans Cemetery just outside of his hometown of Mandan, ND, I honor the life and patriotism of Navy Fireman 2nd Class Albert Renner. Like so many young men of this "greatest generation," he answered the call to defend his country during World War II. On December 7, 1941, at the age of 24, he made the ultimate sacrifice along with 2,402 other soldiers and sailors during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. He was serving on the USS *West Virginia*, which sank after being hit by at least seven torpedoes and two bombs.

Last year, aided by a positive DNA sent by his surviving siblings several decades ago, Albert Renner's remains were finally positively identified. On Tuesday, his body arrived at the Minneapolis airport. A full military escort motorcade carrying his casket traveled the 400 miles home to Mandan. Many citizens, including veterans and fire and police men and women, stopped along the highway to solemnly pay their respects as the motorcade passed by.

Attending today's funeral service and burial are members of his family who have traveled from across the Nation to pay their respects to this beloved member of their family. Even though many of them never met him, together they are mourning the lost blessings of Albert not being a part of their family for the past 79 years.

Albert could have had a rewarding life on the family farm or in some other profession. He could have had a wife and family and home of his own.

His burial service today is a poignant reminder of how the sacrifice of heroes defending our Nation have an impact far into the future on those who knew and loved them—and those who never will.

Navy Fireman 2nd Class Albert Renner died so Americans could live in peace and prosperity. He is now back in his home State, lying in eternal rest with other North Dakota heroes. I thank the many patriots who are committed to identifying the remains of all unknown American service members and bringing them home.

To the family of Navy Fireman 2nd Class Albert Renner, I join citizens across our State and Nation in sending our sincere condolences. It is heroes like Albert who have kept our communities, State, Nation, and world safe. His life made a difference in the lives of all of us. We are forever grateful.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### ZOEY'S CONGENITAL CATARACT AWARENESS DAY

• Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, a special little girl named Zoey is celebrating her first birthday on September 28, 2020. In recognition of this day, Spencer County Judge Executive John Riley is declaring it as Zoey's Congenital Cataract Awareness Day. It is the hope of her parents that every primary care clinician in Spencer County, the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and beyond, is aware of this rare cause of blindness that can be surgically treated when diagnosed early enough. As an ophthalmologist, I have had the privilege of participating in these surgeries and know how life-changing early intervention can be. Fortunately for Zoey, after three surgeries, she has a very promising prognosis. I am honored to help make Zoey's birthday wish come true by sharing her story and thereby raising awareness for the early detection and treatment of congenital cataracts.●

##### RECOGNIZING TRINITY AT CITY BEACH

• Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, as a member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each month I recognize and celebrate the American entrepreneurial spirit by highlighting the success of a small business in my home State of Idaho. Today I am pleased to honor Trinity at City Beach in Sandpoint as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for September 2020 and recognize them for their efforts to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Established by Justin Dick, Trinity moved to its City Beach location in 2009 and has been an integral part of the Sandpoint community for more than a decade. Named after the holy trinity of peppers, onions, and celery found in traditional Creole cooking,